

REMARKS

In the pending office action, claims 3, 7, 11, 13 and 30-37 are allowed; claims 12 and 17 are "dis-allowed"; and claims 4 and 6 stand objected to.

In response, claims 4 and 6 are amended into "classic" Markush format, which is believed to remove the objection. No other claims are amended. Claims 12 and 17 are cancelled, and also claims 36 and 37 which depend on claim 17, without prejudice to the submission of the same or similar claims in a different application. The cancellation is not to be taken as agreement by applicants with Examiner's position that the references cited by Examiner against these claims render them obvious.

In response to Examiner's request for information concerning any co-pending related applications, it is noted that applicant's co-pending applications 11/010,629 (published as US 2005-0129733-A1) and 60/673,208 deal with the coating of meshes. Both are subsequent to the present application in priority and filing date.

Passage of claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 13 and 30-35 to issue is respectfully requested. Should any issues remain, Examiner is encouraged to contact applicant's representative by telephone, fax or e-mail. Any fee due with this response should be charged to deposit account 50-3300.

Sincerely,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 20th day of September, 2005.

Francis H Kirkpatrick

